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THE BALTIC FLEET'S TASK A DIFFICULT UNDERTAKING

(Continued from Page 1.)

battle. The material of which Russian armies and navies are made is not so

COMPOSITION OF THE FLEET.

following	vessels:		
	BATTLE	SHIPS.	
		Ton-	Launch-
		nage.	ed.
Imperator	Alexander	III 13,516	1901
Imperator	Alexander	III 13,516	1901
Oslyabya		12,674	1898
Sissol Vel	iki	10,400	1894
Vavarin .	*********	10,206	1891
Borodino		13,516	1901
Orel		13,516	1902
Kniaz Suv	rarov	13,516	1902
AR	MORED C	RUISERS	5.
Dmitri Do	nskoi	6,200	1883
	Vakimov		1885
PROTEC	CTED CRU	ISERS,	FIRST

CLASS. Aurora 6,731 1900 Oleg 6,675 1903 PROTECTED CRUISER, SECOND CLASS.

Svyetlana 3,862 1896 PROTECTED CRUISERS, THIRD CLASS.

Zhemchug 3,106 1903 Izumrud 3,106 1903

DESTROYERS	5.	
To	ons.	Speed.
Buini	350	261/2-27
Bravi	350	261
Blestyashtchi		263
Buistri	350	264
Bodri	350	263
Byedovi	350	265
Bezuputchiu	350	261
Prouzitelni	350	261
Gromki	350	261
Grozni		261
Podoijeny	350	261
Rezoy	350	261
AUXILIARY CRUISE	RS	AND
TRANSPORTS	3.	

ed merchant ships of high speed.)

Hospital ship Orel. REPAIR SHIPS. Kamchatka, Ocean.

COLLIERS. Korea, Kitai, Kniaz Gorcha Kov. A COSTLY FLEET.

ever went to sea, and one of the most rear admirals, Rojestvensky, Falkersen and Enkeist, and an enormous amount of money has been expended following table:

Seven battle ships, \$6,500,000 . wo armored cruisers, \$5,000,000

ing \$2,500,000 each 15,000,000 Twelve destroyers, \$250,000 Nine auxiliary cruisers, averaging \$1,000,000 each 9,000,000 spend the winter cruising about in trop-Two repair ships, \$500,000

Hospital ship It not only costs a great deal to build and equip them, but they must be kept in perfect repair and the cost of main- ships would scarcely be in fighting trim tenance is very large. Mr. Prettyman, if they were to make a quick voyage a British naval expert, has recently Fort Street. of maintaining a battle ship of 12,000

> and smaller vessels varies, of course, ful if they allow the Russians to even according to their tonnage and the size enter the Pacific without a battle. They D M Kapalau & of their crews, but, taking the Baltic will know every movement; every step fleet altogether, it is probable that the of the Baltic fleet will be reported, and

of peace, while in time of war the expense is naturally very much greater.

EXPENSE OF COALING. It will cost in the neighborhood of good as that of other European nations \$600,000 for coal to send the Baltic fleet or the United States, although, as has around to Port Arthur. Under the been demonstrated in every emergency, most favorable circumstances the sevthe sailors and soldiers are both great en battle ships will need at least 30,000 auxiliarie 40.000 tons, the repair and hospital ships 4000 tons each, the The Baltic fleet is composed of the twelve destroyers 500 tons each, or a total of from 105,000 to 110,000 tons, and it is a very serious problem to provide this fuel. It must be remembered that no coaling stations are open and it is necessary for the fleet to carry its own supply. Every ship will start out with full bunkers, which will be sufficient to take them to some point on the north African coast, where they can find plenty of secluded bays and inlets in which they can coal from the colliers. The second supply will carry them through the Red sea, and they will have to find some safe place down there to renew the supplies. Then they can go to Sumatra, and there take enough to carry them to the Philippines, where they can find plenty of harbors that are safe from storm, but are scarcely safe from the Japanese fleet. From that time on it will be

a matter of fighting. The two colliers in the list can carry scarcely enough for one coaling, and relays will have to be sent at frequent intervals to overtake or meet the fleet. Takao. 1,764 It will be necessary to have at least Tenriu, 1,547 ten colliers for this service, because Katsuragi. 1,502 not less than 50,000 tons of coal will Yamato. 1,502 be needed, and the ordinary collier can- Mushashi, 1,502 not carry more than 5000 tons. Then Tsukushi. 1,372 when the fleet reaches the scene of war it must have plenty of fuel handy or it will be helpless. Ships cannot fight without coal any more than they can fight without powder, and it does not need a naval expert to explain the difficulty of keeping this vast fleet in fuel, ammunition and other supplies. It will have to receive everything at sea. If retreat to renew supplies or make repairs the case would be different, but Sazanami. 311 after Singapore is passed it may be expected that the Japanese will give the Russians all they can attend to Murakuma. 279 Don, Ural, Terek, Kuban, Irtish, without allowing them to make repairs Yugiri. 279 western passage to India his problem Usugumo. 279 admiral in command of this great ar- Hayatori, 380

CONSTANT VIGILANCE NECES.

Some naval experts are of the opinion that the fun is going to begin before the Baltic fleet leaves the English channel. A large number of Japanese torpedo boats and destroyers have disappeared, and nobody knows what has become of them. It is suspected in its construction, armament and of Africa somewhere waiting for the equipment. The money value of the Russians to come down that way. It fleet is of itself very large. Some idea would be easy for the Japanese to folof its cost may be obtained from the low the Russians with a mosquito fleet, not only for the purpose of watching their movements and keeping the autorpedo or drop a floating mine in their course. The Japanese have demonstrated their ability in naval warfare, and almost anything may be expected

> It is the popular opinion that he will ical waters trying his ships, training his men and getting everything ready But. whatever he does it will enemy. Such deliberate cruising is considered absolutely necessary to put the fleet in shape for battle because the Russians have no Oregons or men like fifteen or eighteen thousand miles of cruising every vessel in the fleet will require a good deal of overhauling. even if they are not compelled to fight

Total\$468,355 anese will let the Baltic fleet come The expense of maintaining cruisers very near the Yellow sea. It is doubt- Lung San Wai to Isidore Rubinstein year, at the lowest estimate, in time weather sets in, most of the Japanese remainder of the term.

ade of Port Arthur, and will be free to cruise southward in search of the enemy. The following is a list of vessels in the Japanese navy available for that purpose, and by comparing it with the Baltic fleet you will conclude that the latter cannot expect an easy time. BATTLE SHIPS.

	Displace-	Date of
*	ment, tons.	launch.
Mikasa	15.443	1900
Asahi	15,443	1899
Shikishima,	15,088	1898
Yashima		1896
Fuji		1896
Chin Yen		1882
ARMORED (CRUISERS	3 500 10
Adsuma		1899
Yakumo		1900
Iwate		1900
Idsumo,	9,906	1899
Tokiwa	9,855	1898
Asama		1898
Kasaga,		1902
Niasin		1903
PROTECTED	CRUISER	s.
Kasagi	4,978	1898
Chitose		1898
Itsukushima	4,278	1889
Hashidate		1889
Matsushima		
Takasago		1897
Naniwa		1885
Takashiho	A STATE OF BRIDE	1885
Akitshushima	3,172	1892
Idsumi		1884
Akashi		1897
Suma	2,700	1895
Chiyoda		1890
Niitaka		1902
Tsushima	3,420	1902
UNPROTECTEL	CRUISEI	RS.
Yayayama	1,600	1889

1885 1885 1886 1881 Shirakumo. 379 1901 Asashio. 375 1902 Harusame. 379 1902 Murasame. 375 1902 1901 Kasumi. 371 1902 Ikatsuchi, 311 1898 1899 1899 Oboro. 311 1899 Shinnonome. 1895 1898 1898 1898 1899

Ryeshetelni. 240 1900 give the ships of Admiral Rojestvensky no assistance. The Gromoboi and the Rossia, which made so much trouble and did so much damage for a little while, are now not only hors du combat but are frozen up in the harbor of Vladivostok.

J H Schnack & wf to C F A Koerner..D Kawahahee & wf to Julia J O Wil-Antonio P C R Spinola by affd't of mtgee to Port Mut Ben Soc of

Antonio P C R Spinola by mtgee to Port Mut Ben Soc of Haw to Joseph Lutero Forc Affd't Kekula Kupihea by mtgee to Peter

S M Damon to Lung San WaiL Isidor Rubinstein to Lung San Wai

average per vessel will exceed \$300,000 within a few weeks, when the cold Court were excused yesterday for the

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